

LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Claxton, Remsen & Haffelinger send us the following of their recent publications:— "The Memoir of the Life of the Right Reverend George Burgess, D. D., is a compilation edited and arranged by Rev. Alexander Burgess, D. D., the son of the bishop. Bishop Burgess was a man of mark in the Episcopal Church, and after his death there was a very general desire for a complete and comprehensive memoir. The editor informs us that the task of preparing this was undertaken by several persons, but it was relinquished for a variety of reasons, and that the volume before us is therefore the product of a number of pens; the different contributions being linked together by Dr. Burgess, who has supplied various reminiscences of his father, with a large amount of interesting matter in the shape of extracts from epistolatory correspondence, sermons, journal or diary. Some of the most prominent clergymen of the Episcopal Church have contributed to the work, which is at once an interesting review of the character and labors of Bishop Burgess, and a testimonial of the esteem in which he was held by his brethren.

"Westbrook Parsonage," by Harriet B. McKeever, is a semi-religious story, which is designed to counteract the ritualistic tendencies of a certain portion of the Episcopal Church at the present day. Miss McKeever is very much in earnest, and her story is arranged to set forth her views in a very positive manner. It will doubtless be read with interest by those who are excited on the subject of ritualism, and the probabilities are that in a few months we will have half a score of novels in reply to it, and exhibiting the beauties of the other side of the matter in controversy.

"Twice Told; or, The Three Influences," by Mrs. E. L. Courtney, is a religious Christmas story for young people. Messrs. Claxton, Remsen & Haffelinger also send us "The Odes and Epodes of Horace," translated by Lord Lytton. Published by Harper & Brothers. This version of Horace is one of the literary sensations of the season in England. It gives the original and the translation on opposite pages, with ample notes and illustrations. An introductory essay discusses the causes of Horace's popularity, and each ode is introduced with such explanatory remarks as will give the reader a proper understanding of its application. The translations are made in unrhymed metre, as nearly analogous to those of the original as the difference of the languages will permit. This work will undoubtedly give ordinary readers a better idea of the peculiarities of Horace than any translation hitherto published, and for students it will be a most valuable auxiliary. The notes and illustrations show mature scholarship and nice critical discrimination, and in the management of his unrhymed metres Lord Lytton has displayed all the skill that made his "Lost Tales of Miletus" so popular.

From the same house we have received "Old Horse Gray and the Parish of Grumbleton," by Edward Hooper. Published by Hurd & Houghton. This horse epic is dedicated to the "merciful philologist, Henry Bergh," and although the subject is horsey, the moral is humanitarian. The verses are written in a pleasant vein of humor, and we find them more agreeable reading than many others of greater pretensions. From Porter & Coates we have received the following works, just issued from their press:—"Fairy Tales for Little Folks" is a translation of the popular and very attractive stories of Madame la Comtesse de Segur. The book contains "Blondine, Bonne-Biche, and Beaumignon," "Good Little Henry," "Princess Rosette," "The Little Grey Mouse," and "Ourson." These stories are illustrated with designs by Grisct, and unless the belief in fairies has begun to die out in the nursery, they will undoubtedly be appreciated by the important class of readers for whom they are particularly intended.

"Under the Holly" is a Christmas book for girls. It is a pleasantly written narrative of the sayings and doings of a party of young people, the object of which is to introduce a number of clever stories and verses on Christmas subjects. These are "The Trials of an Heiress;" "The Unknown Heroine, or the Martyr of Rochebeaucourt;" "The Christmas Visit;" "Charlie Gray;" "The Fate of the Leaves;" "Esther Radnor, or the Indian Captive;" "The Child of the Camp;" and "The Sisters; or, Mr. Mortimer's Wards."

"Little Rosie in the Country," by Margaret Hoemer, is the second volume of the "Little Rosie" series of religious stories for children, in course of publication by Porter & Coates. "Puck" is the title of a new novel by "Ouida," just published by J. B. Lippincott & Co. "Puck" is not a fairy, but a dog, whose autobiography is here given in the peculiar vein that makes the writings of "Ouida" so attractive to some people and so unpleasant to others. "Puck" passes through a variety of adventures that give him unusual facilities for investigating the high and low of London life. The story is interesting, but it is occasionally painfully overwrought, and the grim sort of humor that the writer affects at times is very far indeed from having anything of a comical effect. "Ouida" undoubtedly has power, but she has never yet been able to produce a work that was not distinguished by the most glaring absurdities of style. There is a certain class of readers, however, that like this, and "Puck" will be found just to their taste.

J. B. Lippincott & Co. also send us "Benny," a Christmas ballad, by Annie Chambers Ketchum. Published by S. R. Wells. This is a little poem that appeared originally in the *Philadelphia Journal*, where it achieved such popularity as to induce its separate publication in holiday style. We sincerely think that "Benny" is a very poor specimen of a poem; but we do not care to interfere with the enjoyment of its admirers, so we merely state that it is printed on good paper and neatly bound as a holiday book.

From T. B. Peterson & Brothers we have received "The Family Doom; or, The Sin of a Countess," an exciting novel by Mrs. E. D. N. Southworth; and "New Receipts for Cooking," by Miss Leslie, a new edition of a work ever popular with good housewives. From the American Sunday School Union we have received "Sweet and Garnered" and "Kitty's Christmas Tree," a couple of religious stories suitable for Sunday School libraries. From the Historical Society of Pennsylvania we have received a copy of the eloquent eulogium on the Life and Character of Hon. Joseph Reed Ingersoll, delivered at the hall of the University, September 28, 1869, by David Fair-Brown, Esq. "The Sunday School Workman" is the title of a new paper devoted to the advancement of Sunday School work. The first number presents

an attractive appearance, and is filled with excellent articles. It is edited by Rev. Alfred Taylor, and is published at No. 71 Broadway, New York.

NEW YORKISM.

From Our Own Correspondent. NEW YORK, Dec. 23, 1869. The New York Stock Exchange. All reverence is not dead yet in New York. Sometimes I think it is. Occasionally I come to the conclusion that the love of mere has blotted out all respect for everything which the simple-minded and ingenuous hold sacred. Trade is so rushing and conscienceless that it elbows reliquaries out of the way, and don't leave religion even standing room. Churches have their domes and steeples decapitated, and are transformed into theatres; ancient meeting-houses are razed and supplanted by "palatial" stores; and gold quotations are posted where the Word of God was once dispensed. But there are some exceptions to this rule. It was feared that the New York Stock Exchange was burning to occupy the ground at present held by St. Paul's; but the New York Stock Exchange has come right side up with care in the matter, and St. Paul's will not yet "turn up its toes." Mr. Burke, a real estate broker, took it upon himself, a day or two ago, to inquire—ostensibly on account of the Stock Exchange—upon what terms the corporation of Trinity Church would lease or sell the ground now occupied by St. Paul's. This was a piece of gratuitous impertinence, inasmuch as the Stock Exchange had never given him authority to make such inquiries. The site is an enviable one, but as Mr. William H. Nelson, President of the Stock Exchange, remarks, that association has no intention of bargaining for the possession of a locality endeared by so many hallowed historical associations. Perhaps it is well to have so close such a silent yet perpetual monitor as a graveyard in the very focus of the city's babble, sending forth a spiritual breathing over the busy bustle of Vanity Fair.

Mr. Fechter, who some months ago was so elaborately pre-puffed by his friend, Mr. Dickens, in the columns of a New England magazine, will give his first performance in this country on the evening of Monday, January 10, 1870, at Niblo's Garden. I have never seen Mr. Fechter as yet, but I have seen his American prototype, Dan Symons, of the Olympic Theatre. People who have heard both Mr. Fechter and Mr. Symons' imitation of him swear that one is as good as the other, and that, at any rate, the original is just as fine as the copy! Mr. Symons gives a very strong Teutonic accent, and this is said to be a perfect reproduction of the German actor's principal deficiency. Mr. Fechter is going to be a fashionable success. His "Hamlet," at Niblo's, will anticipate by a few days, perhaps, that of Mr. Booth, great preparations for which have been making for some months past.

Christmas Novelties. Among the Christmas gifts exposed for sale are no novelties with the exception of games. Even the toy kingdom is dull, invention having made scarcely a single stride in advance of those of last season. Among games, however, several new varieties have been introduced. Some of these are made subservient to useful purposes, on Victor Hugo's principle, I presume, that the beautiful is as useful as the useful. Geology, natural history, and chronology are summarized therein, and the young idea is taught how to bring down something every time it shoots in sport. Among the newest, and those which, without being new, are invested with a new application, are briques, silver cherries, *quille a l'anneau*, and the Ingleside games. *Quille a l'anneau* is played upon a board, upon which are described three dozen circles; men are placed, and places are thrown for, and a spirited contest is supposed to ensue. Silver chimes has a tinge of romance in it, and can be played either in-doors or out. It is played on an octagon-shaped board, with the enclosed spaces checked off by targets furnished with silver bells. The implements with which it is conducted are counters, mallets, and balls, and the alternate position of the players determines the winners. *Quille a l'anneau* is the French title of a game which promises to come into vogue, and which consists of a square board, covered with felt, and stuck with nine fixed pins. Over these the contestants, standing at a distance, endeavor to throw metallic rings covered with india-rubber. The games known as the Ingleside games likewise promise to be very popular. One of them is called the Crown game, and the contestants using a morocco board, on which forty-nine squares are apportioned off, endeavor to enthrone their respective rivals to the title of majesty. Lottie, another of the games, is played upon the same board, but the central idea is different, and the winning stroke consists either in capturing your adversary or in hemming him inescapably in. Plix, the newest of all the Inglesides, and the one requiring the greatest intellectual strain, is played with dice, and will be intensely affected by the few rather than popular with the many. Perhaps these few hints will be of some use to your readers who intend making Christmas gifts.

The Last of the Fat Men. Very little of the fat men has been seen since Monday night. The dancing and the subsequent refreshments that were rendered necessary had a very wearing effect upon them. Their next public entertainment will be a clam-bake similar to that held last August in Connecticut. From this all reporters will be rigorously excluded, as it is the object of these squabby Sybarites to enjoy themselves in a quiet way, and not to thrust upon the public. Individually, the members of the club are fat; but collectively, the subscription list is as yet thin, not numbering more than between one and two hundred.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC. The City Amusements. ITALIAN OPERA.—On Monday next the subscription list will be opened for the season of Italian opera to commence on Monday, January 3. The season will consist of twelve evening performances and two matinees, and in addition to some of the most admired works of the day, Rossini's *William Tell* and Verdi's comic opera of *Jephte* will be produced in handsome style. Miss Clara Louise Kellogg, Signor Ronconi, and other favorite artists will appear. The subscription price is extremely low considering the attraction, being only \$15 for the fourteen performances.

On Christmas evening will be performed for the first time the new play, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The New York *Clippers* state that Miss Laura Keane, and not Colonel Fitzgerald, is the author of this drama. It is important that the real facts of the case should be made known as soon as possible to avoid any confusion in history.

On Christmas day and evening a dramatization of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" will be produced with a number of fine scenic effects. At the Walnut Miss Bateman will appear as "Leah." This is the part in which Miss Bateman made her reputation, and it is certainly better worthy of her attention than the one she has been playing for the last three weeks. On Christmas there will be a matinee, when *The Carpenter of Boston* and *The Serious Family* will be performed. At the Arch Bockstone's comedy of *Married Life*

and the drama of *The Seven Clerks* will be given this evening. At Duprez & Benedict's Opera House Frank Brown will appear this evening in his great part of "Happy Uncle Tom." At the Eleventh Street Opera House the pantomime of *The Old Woman that Lived in the Shoe* will be presented this evening. Signor Blitz and his son will perform a variety of amusing tricks at the Assembly Building this afternoon. The Sautz-Hassler Orchestra will give a matinee at the Musical Fund Hall on Saturday.

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THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. No. 107 S. FOURTH and WALNUT Streets. FIRE INSURANCE EXCLUSIVELY. CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUNDS SECURED. Cash Capital \$1,000,000. \$200,000.00. Cash Assets, July 1, 1868. DIRECTORS: F. Hatchford Starr, James L. Claghorn, N. H. Atwood, John H. Keaton, H. M. H. Montague, Frederick Charles Wheeler, George H. Stuart, Thomas H. Montgomery, John H. Brown. This Company insures only first class risks, taking no specially hazardous risks whatever, such as factories, etc. F. HATCHFORD STARR, President. H. M. H. MONTAGUE, Vice-President. ALEXANDER W. WISLER, Secretary. 203

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE CO. LONDON. ESTABLISHED 1803. Paid-up Capital and Accumulated Funds, \$5,000,000 IN GOLD. PREVOST & HERRING, Agents, 241 No. 107 S. THIRD Street, Philadelphia. CHAS. M. PREVOST. CHAS. P. HERRING.